

# The Stonesfield Slate

Issue No 476 December 2017/January 2018



## Dates for your diary – December

2	Christmas coffee morning	St James' Centre	10–11.30am
2	Santa's Party	Village Hall	3–6pm
2 & 3	Arts & Craft Show	Grey cat Studio	11am–5pm
4,11,18	Monday Coffee	St James' Centre	8.45–10am
4,11,18	SJC Cuppa	St James' Centre	10–11.30am
5	VH Trustees meeting	Village Hall	7–9pm
5	WI Lunch	Bird in Hand	12.30pm
5,12,19	Book Break	Stonesfield Library	12.30–2pm
6	Lunch Club open lunch	St James' Centre	12.15pm
6,13,20	Folk Dance Group	Village Hall	8–10pm
9	WOC Charity Concert	Village Hall	tbc
11	Gardening Club	St James' Centre	7.30pm
14	Over 60s Christmas Lunch	Village Hall	1pm
14	Parish Council meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
15	Scout Bingo	Village Hall	6.30–8.30pm
16	Carol singing	outside village shop	9–10am
19	WI meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
20	The Treasure Box	St James' Centre	10.30–12noon
21	Santa's Sleigh	around the village	from 6.30pm
23	Village carol service	St James's Church	6.30pm
30	Ecce Iucunda Nativitas Concert	St James's Church	7.30pm
31	New Year's Eve Disco	Sports & Social Club	8pm–1am

## January

1	Stonesfield Stumble	outside the church	11.15am
3	Lunch Club open lunch	St James' Centre	12.15pm
3,10,17,24,31	Folk Dance	Village Hall	8–10pm
8,15,22,29	Monday Coffee	St James' Centre	8.45–10am
8,15,22,29	SJC Cuppa	St James' Centre	10–11.30am
11,18,25	Book Break	Stonesfield Library	12.30–2pm
11	Over 60s Darby & Joan	Village Hall	2pm
11	Parish Council meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
15	Sustainable Stonesfield public meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm

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**The deadline for copy  
and advertisements  
for the next issue is  
15 January**

Please email copy to  
**slate@stonesfield.com**  
or hand it in at the village  
shop (Suriya Express).  
Advertisements to  
**sj@sjhaviland.co.uk**

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# Christmas things

## Christmas greetings

Phil, Tina and Curtly would like to wish each and every one of our family and friends a very Happy Christmas and a healthy, peaceful New Year 2018. We will again be making a donation to Sobell House Hospice Charity instead of sending Christmas cards.

*The Slatter family*

I would like to wish all my friends a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2018. I will be sending a donation to Sobell House Hospice instead of sending Christmas cards.

*Judy Oliver*

## Christmas coffee morning

Everyone is very warmly invited to come along to a Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 2 December, 10–11.30am, St James' Centre. Organised by the Parish Church, all the money raised will be given to Cecily's Fund (our own local charity which makes education possible for orphaned and vulnerable Zambian children). Apart from coffee and mince pies and time to chat, there will be both cake and Christmas gift stalls. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Carol singing

Everyone is most welcome to join in carol singing on Saturday 16 December, 9–10am, outside the village shop. Not only will this help to remind us all of the meaning of Christmas, but it will also be

a good way to raise money for the Disasters Emergency Appeal for those who have fled into Bangladesh to escape the violence in Rakhine State, Myanmar.

## Treasure Box

The Treasure Box will open on Wednesday 20 December from 10.30am to 12noon in the St James' Centre. All children are welcome (adults too). Under 5s must be accompanied by an adult. The theme is Christmas! Come and make Christmas decorations, ice some biscuits, sing songs, play games and listen to the Christmas story. Details from Muriel Barrett (891479).

## Music & Spectacle for a Medieval and Modern Christmas & New Year

The Pastime Ensemble and Players invite you to Ecce Iucunda Nativitas, an evening of colourful tableaux, liturgical drama, merry carols & dances from the 12th to the 20th centuries at St James' Church on 30 December at 7.30pm. This group of professional musicians have entertained us before and are back with this new show. Given how good the last one was, this is an evening not to be missed.

There is no advance booking, the performance is free, but there will be a retiring collection in aid of Bridewell Gardens ([bridewellgardens.co.uk](http://bridewellgardens.co.uk)). Profits from refreshments will also go towards this organisation.

If you fancy taking part in one of the tableaux we are looking for shepherds and angels. No speaking required, just a bit of acting in costume to enhance the music.

Please contact Becki Sherlaw-Johnson for further information or if you want to take part in the tableaux. 01993 891318 or [rebeccasj@btinternet.com](mailto:rebeccasj@btinternet.com).

## Combe Christmas Lights

Friday 1 December, 5:30pm–7pm, Combe

Reading Room – Live music, Carol singing, mince pies and mulled wine, hot chocolate and Christmas bakes and Christmas shopping stalls (cash or cheque only). All in aid of Combe School.

## Combe School Christmas Bazaar

Sunday 10 December, 2–4pm, Combe School Hall. Mulled wine, mince pies, Christmas crafts and games, gifts to buy and make. Father Christmas will be making an appearance as well!

W.O.C. Choir  
Presents  
"Walking in a Winter wonderland"  
An evening of festive song  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, Stonesfield Village Hall @ 6pm  
Santa's Grotto – Mulled Wine – Mince Pies – Tea & Coffees – Raffle – Tombola  
Tickets: Adults - £5 Child/Concessions - £2  
Tickets available on the door. To reserve tickets please contact Laura or Dave at [wocchoir@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wocchoir@yahoo.co.uk)  
In aid of: F.O.S.S.

# Notices

## Stonesfield Stumble – breaking news

This year we hope to commemorate the battle of Bagg's Bottom, river conditions permitting! The annual New Year stumble will take place on 1 January 2018 starting outside the church. Walk will take approx 1.15 hours but as always there are shorter options along the way for the wee and weary. Finish at the White Horse Pub. No Sat Nav required.

*Graham Rutson*

## Thanks

The governors of Stonesfield School would like to thank Stonesfield Sports & Social Club for their generous donation towards the cost of repairing the damaged stone wall. As maintenance of this wall is expensive and ongoing, it will be continued once further charitable funds become available.

*Gillian Clarke and Sandy Hayes (Co-chairs)*

## Thank you and Season's Greetings

The FoSS team are delighted to confirm that the FoSS Christmas Fayre & Pop-up Cafe raised an AMAZING £900 towards replacing the school's playground equipment! We are truly grateful to everyone who supported the event, baking cakes, making soup, volunteering throughout the day, visiting the Fayre, buying raffle tickets, enjoying the cafe and more. Thank you also to all of the stallholders for a fantastic array of gift

ideas and the Village Hall, for ensuring everything was in order for us.

FoSS, whilst writing, would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the Village, and the wider community, for your ongoing support of FoSS and FoSS events throughout 2017, and wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

*The FoSS Team*

## Traffic-calming lights in Woodstock Road

Those who signed the petition about the Woodstock Road traffic-calming lights have some cause for satisfaction. In their article in the November *Slate* the Parish Council confirm in writing that they will not knowingly agree to further lights in the village. I have received no other substantial response from the Parish Council so I am unable to tell you more.

One point needs to be put right. The Council suggests in its article that light pollution is little more than a concern for stargazers. This is mistaken. It is a wide-ranging environmental protection issue which is of concern to many public bodies, as well as a broad spectrum of their electorate. For instance, the Cotswold Conservation Board, which is responsible for the AONB, has a policy for the preservation of dark skies, acknowledged by local authorities in the area.

With all good wishes.

*Sue Corrigan*

# Politics & local affairs

## Sustainable Stonesfield

We are holding a second public meeting on Monday 15 January at 7.30 in the village hall. We want to report to the village on what we have achieved so far and enlist your support for the challenges that lie ahead. Planning applications are continuing to arrive and we are continuing to fight them on the grounds of violation of the AONB, over-crowding of our roads, inadequate sewerage systems and inappropriate numbers of unaffordable houses in a village which is not a rural service centre. Please come and hear what we have been up to and what we understand to be the current position. Come and let us know what you would like us to do and what you think about any of the issues that face our village.

We expect a revised planning application for the North Farm development to be lodged in the near future. The original application was for 16 houses – this is likely to double to more than 30 houses. At the time of going to press, the revised application has not been published by WODC. We will send an email to all residents who have signed up to Sustainable Stonesfield and also to Stonesfield Nextdoor as soon as the details have been made public and also put details on the Stonesfield website. As with other planning applications, we will put sample letters of objection on the Stonesfield website – please use them to voice your objection.

Would you like to join Sustainable

Stonesfield to get emails and information? No fee, no hassle. There are already over 150 members who have joined because they want to hear the latest news and help if they can. Use the sign up form at:  
<http://eepurl.com/cJI4bj>

*Caroline Friend, Sustainable Stonesfield*

## Message in a Bottle (or a Wallet) scheme

Witney Lions Club is promoting a scheme to enable Emergency Services to readily locate medical details and contact information if called to a home in an emergency. The Club provides a small plastic bottle (free of charge) in which the user puts their emergency information: identity, contacts, allergies, list of medications. It is kept in the fridge, with green stickers provided with the bottle put on the outside of the fridge and inside the front door. All Emergency Services are aware of this scheme and are trained to look for these stickers.

The Message in a Wallet scheme is similar, with the card kept in the user's wallet so if they're in an accident away from home, anyone coming to their aid will have access to necessary information.

The service is free. It has the potential to help save lives, particularly for more vulnerable individuals. More information is provided on the website:  
[witneylions.org.uk/messagenabottle.html](http://witneylions.org.uk/messagenabottle.html)

*Supplied by Robert Courts, our MP*

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## Stonesfield Community Trust

Stonesfield Community Trust are looking for new trustees to join them in continuing the valuable work done over the last thirty years. The Trust is a huge asset of our ever-expanding village.

The current Trustees are looking for new input, not only to help manage the only truly 'affordable' houses available to the people of Stonesfield, but also to increase its housing numbers and continue to support grant applications by the residents and organisations of our village.

A new Trustee would ideally

- Be from a Stonesfield family or have been a resident of Stonesfield for a substantial number of years.
- Have a record of being involved in activities beneficial to the village.
- Have shown an understanding of and sympathy for the stated aims of the Trust.
- Have life skills that can supplement and enhance the operation of the Trust.
- Be prepared to remain a trustee for a sufficient period to be able to contribute to the long-term.
- Be reasonably flexible over making time available to the Trust.
- Fit into the group dynamics of the existing trustees.

No candidate will be discriminated against based on gender, race, disability or sexual orientation. If you would like more information or would like to be considered for the position of Trustee, please email [Markjhatton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Markjhatton@hotmail.co.uk)

*Mark Hatton (Chairman)*

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## Village Hall

Good news from the Village Hall. We are so pleased with the positive response that we received to our previous plea of supporting the village hall that we are holding a 'Cheese and Wine' meeting on Tuesday 5 December at 7pm. This is to welcome our new potential Trustees, plus the addition of a New Treasurer. Anyone else who is interested in being involved with this vital community asset is welcome to attend. We look forward to meeting you all.

We also wanted to thank everyone who has used the hall over the last year, and to remind you that we have organisations running clubs from the hall every day of the week.

If you would like to try something new in 2018, please feel free to have a look at what we currently have available, or contact us if you would like to set up a different activity.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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## Parish Council

**Phone Mast on the Playing Fields:** Users of the playing fields need to be aware that it is anticipated that work will commence to erect a phone mast on the playing fields commencing on 27 November. The work will take approximately three weeks to complete. The contractors will be laying a temporary track around the perimeter of the field. The construction will involve temporary closure of some of the football pitches with disruption being kept to a minimum. Furthermore, the children's play area will have to be closed for three

days whilst a telephone cable is installed along the perimeter; the date for this has yet to be determined. The contractors have been briefed on the proximity of the children's play area to the access route and are fully aware of the need for safety to be the highest priority, having previously worked on a number of similar sites.

**Cala Homes, Pye & North Farm developments:** The planning application for 34 dwellings on land at North Farm remains unregistered at the time of going to press. There is still no information on Cala Homes nor the second phase of the Pye development.

**Glebe Land:** The steps and handrail have now been repaired.

**New Website:** The Stonesfield Parish Council's new website is under construction.

**Budget:** The Precept has been set for 2018-19.

**Allotments:** If you are interested in taking an allotment we have one full one available and a half one.

**The Common:** There will be a discussion on flora and fauna for the proposed new noticeboard for The Common. If you are interested in being involved with this project, please contact Cllr Geraldine Lawrence.

**Blenheim Estates:** The directors of Blenheim Palace will be attending the next Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 14 December. They would like to share the new strategy goals of Blenheim and seek feedback from those attending the meeting. As part of their commitment within the strategy, the directors wish to

share all that they are doing and to seek engagement and support.

The next two Parish Council Meetings will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 14 December and on Thursday 11 January at the Village Hall. All residents are invited to attend.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents of Stonesfield a very happy Christmas and a prosperous and successful New Year.

*Gill Hill, Parish Clerk*  
([stonesfieldpc@gmail.com](mailto:stonesfieldpc@gmail.com))

STOP PRESS. About twenty sheep should be returning to the Common during December. Please watch out for signs at entrances about keeping dogs under control.

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## West Oxon District Council District Update

A great deal of my correspondence and phone calls have been related to the waste collection problems experienced across the district in the last two months.

Although some difficulties were expected after introducing a new system, the scale of the collections missed was not. There are several reasons for this. A new contractor, new vehicles and, although the staff was transferred to the new company, many were on amended routes. Difficulties also arose because some collection points were inaccessible with the new larger vehicles. All this is probably little comfort to those whose bins were left, but I can assure you all that the staff are putting in many extra hours sorting out the problems and are hopeful that the backlog is being whittled down so



that collections will be returned to the standard that you all expect. Incidentally, if statistics interest you, there are a total of 582,335 collections each week. The scale of the missed collections amount to 0.09% at its height. Please accept my apologies on behalf of all the staff at WODC for the inconvenience which this has inevitably caused.

By the time you read this report, the Landscape and Heritage reports requested by the Government Inspector will be in the public domain. This means that the held-over planning applications, such as those affecting Stonesfield, will be brought before the Planning Committee at its December meeting on 4 December. I am sure that the interested parties including the village pressure group will give a good account of themselves at that meeting. For my part, I intend to express my views as strongly as I can. What the decision will be is impossible to predict. I am one of fourteen councillors making a final decision. I hope other councillors will hear, understand and sympathise with the plight of the village. It is sobering to realise that it has taken nigh on a thousand years for Stonesfield to grow gently to a total of about 600 dwellings. Now in one fell swoop that number will increase by over 30%. That the village will change is inevitable, should the decision favour the landowners and developers. I have fought two elections to the District Council, and one of the main planks of my appeal to the electorate was the preservation of the rural characteristics of our rural Oxfordshire villages. Now, I am faced with the possibility of being a part of the decision to change some of the most important characteristics of our village.

On a more cheerful note, there will shortly be a new telephone mast on the edge of the playing field giving us all better and more reliable service. Additionally, Ultrafast broadband is on its way. WODC has signed contracts with Gigaclear to bring fast service to those parts of rural West Oxfordshire still without.

Interestingly, WODC has entered into a groundbreaking arrangement with Blenheim Estates to provide as many as 300 new affordable homes. These would be discounted so that they would be attractive to young and not-so-young looking for a home in the area.

Bear in mind that I am here to help in any way I can. You only have to contact me either at the offices' email on [richard.bishop@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:richard.bishop@westoxon.gov.uk) or at home.

*Richard Bishop (891414)*

**Garden waste and Christmas trees**

From 9 January, garden waste customers can recycle their real Christmas trees, holly, ivy and mistletoe. Please cut up and place inside your licenced garden bin, remembering to remove decorations, pots, wire etc.

**Collection dates:**

<i>Normal collection</i>	<i>Revised collection</i>
Tuesday 26 Dec	Thursday 28 Dec
Tuesday 2 Jan	Thursday 4 Jan
Tuesday 9 Jan	Wednesday 10 Jan
Garden waste collections suspended 25 Dec–8 Jan.	

Normal collection dates resume Monday 15 January 2018.

For more information, visit

[www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk) or call 01993 861025.

**Christmas waste and recycling information**

Most of your Christmas waste can be recycled. Excess recycling can be put out in your black boxes, open cardboard boxes or clear bags. Glass must be separated and put in a recycling box. You can recycle small electrical items in your black boxes and textiles in a clear bag. Leave out your kitchen caddy for weekly collections too.

**Supporting Universal Credit applicants**

As a major part of government changes to the welfare system comes into effect in West Oxon at the end of November, residents making a new claim can be assured of support from the District Council.

Universal Credit merges several benefits and credits into a single payment replacing a number of existing benefits and tax credits. All new applications will need to be made online to the Department of Work and Pensions, with the applicant responsible for managing their own changes and making their own payments, such as rent and housing costs. WODC officers will be on hand to offer general advice and assist people with setting up their own accounts and with online form filling. Benefit applicants will be able to use computer terminals in council reception areas.

See [www.westoxon.gov.uk/universalcredit](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/universalcredit) for further information, including how an appointment can be made with a Client Support Officer.

**Oxfordshire County Council**  
**Apply online for primary school places**

Applications for children due to start primary school in September 2018 can now be made online. Families with children born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 are urged to visit the primary school admissions pages on the county council's website to find out how to apply for places for next year. The council still accepts postal applications but recommends families apply online where possible, as it helps speed up the applications process. It also means families receive an automatic response confirming their application has been received and can be quickly notified if further information is needed. Those who apply online will receive an email on allocation day, 16 April 2018, informing them of the outcome of their application. Postal application forms are available from all Oxfordshire schools and from reception at County Hall in Oxford.

Help someone get online – be a digital helper at your local library

Volunteers able to give up just a few hours a week are being sought at branches across the county to provide one-to-one support for people with little or no experience of using computers or the internet. The aim of the campaign is to help people access services online including council services; access employment or training opportunities; become more independent; reduce isolation. To find out more or to sign up as a Digital Helper visit: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/digitalhelper](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/digitalhelper)

*Cllr Ian Hudspeth (07956 270318; [ian.hudspeth@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ian.hudspeth@oxfordshire.gov.uk))*

# Education & culture

## Stonesfield Library

Telephone: 01993 898187

### Opening Hours:

Monday	2.30–7pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10am–12noon
Thursday	2.30–5pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	10am–12noon

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone from The Staff and all the Volunteers at Stonesfield Library. We are closing for Christmas and New Year on Thursday 21 December at 5pm until Wednesday 3 January 2018 at 10am. We will however be open on Saturday 30 December from 10–12noon.

*Judith Lloyd*

As most readers will know, our Manager, Debbie Wilson, has been off sick for some time. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this but the good news is that Judith Lloyd is now with us for a three-month contract so there will always be a professional available on Mondays and on alternate Wednesdays and Saturdays. We hope that Debbie will recover soon but at least we have a professional permanently in her stead.

We look forward to more visitors during the colder months that lie ahead. With their budget stable for the next year, Library Services hope to be able to send a steady stream of books to the 43 Libraries in the County. We welcome comments

and requests on the books that are on the shelves; we are often able to ask for and receive books on new subjects or written by authors who are missing from our shelves. As always, if you don't ask you cannot get, so let Judith and ourselves have your ideas and we will try our hardest to do as you ask.

All the larger Libraries will remain open over the Christmas period (though see Judith's note above about our own closure) so the Library Service and its books are still available for a bit of peace between all those parties. Meanwhile, we thank our faithful customers for their visits and remind the village that we are here and at their service: we are fortunate to have this facility, so let's use it lest we lose it! Happy Christmas and all good fortune in 2018.

*Tony Scott and the other FoSLs*

## The Stonesfield Players

By the time you read this, our production of *Absent Friends* will have come and gone and the Players would like to thank director Caroline Friend and everyone else involved with this production.

To brighten up the dark days of February the Players are putting on a Quiz of Quizzes quiz night (if that's not too many quizzes in one sentence) on Saturday 24 February. Further details to follow but pencil in the date!

We are also looking at staging another of our famous 'Radio' plays in the spring and

starting to think about a production for next autumn so watch this space!

We look forward to seeing many of you at one or other of our events next year. In the meantime we would like to wish all our members, friends and supporters a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

## West Oxfordshire Community Choir

WOC CHOIR IS CHANGING. From January the choir will meet for rehearsals on a WEDNESDAY evening. The new term will launch on Wednesday 10 Jan at 7:30pm in St James' Centre. If you've not been to choir for while or perhaps have never sung with us before, why not come along to see what being part of a fun-filled, diverse singing group is all about? We never work from sheet music so no music reading ability is required and all levels of singing experience are welcome. From Guns & Roses to Nat King Cole; Andrew Lloyd Webber to Elbow, we sing a huge variety of musical genres and vocal tuition as well as performance technique are all part of the weekly fun too. What more could you want on an otherwise dull, mid-week evening? For more information contact Laura on wocchoir@yahoo.co.uk. We look forward to welcoming you to the choir.

WOC Choir will also be performing our Christmas concert, 'Walking in a Winter Wonderland', on Saturday 9 Dec at 6pm in aid of FoSS. Do come along and support the choir to help us raise as much as possible for our brilliant village school. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2 for children. Father Christmas will also be

coming along to meet the children following the concert and mulled wine, tea, cake, a tombola stall and a raffle will also be on offer. We can't wait to perform for you all again. Happy Merry Harmonising to all!

*Laura*

## The Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock

The Oxfordshire Craft Guild's Christmas Selling Exhibition Until 30 December. Featuring some of the county's leading contemporary craft makers and designers. Perfect for Christmas! Free admission.

Friday 1 December: *Nearest & Dearest*: Family, friends, neighbours and relatives. A monthly group for people to meet, reminisce about the past, bring photos, objects and share memories. We look back at when families were close by. 2-3.30pm. £1 per person includes tea and coffee. For more information, 01865 300693.

**Talks** (7.30pm. Friends free. Visitors welcome. Tickets £4 on the door.)

6 Dec: *Times of contrast* – a geological perspective of Oxfordshire in Jurassic and Quaternary by Lesley Dunlop, The Oxford Geology Trust.

10 Jan: *Trees and the making of our woodland* by John Banbury.

Christmas & New Year: closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day & Boxing Day, 31 Dec & 1 Jan.

## Community Education at the Marlborough School, Woodstock

We run an extensive programme of courses for adults all year round during term time. Courses starting in January

2018 include cooking through the seasons, painting, life drawing, acoustic guitar and psychology. Brush up on your Italian or Spanish with our beginner or improver courses. To relax or get fit, try Pilates, yoga, tai chi, Zumba Gold, or badminton. Our two Tuesday evening singing groups, for beginners and improvers, always welcome new members too.

Our next two Saturday workshop days are 3 February and 10 March. The stand-alone classes we run on these days make great experience presents for friends or family, or why not book two places and come together? These workshops are popular and fill up very quickly, so please book early. Check our website for availability or ring us.

Marlborough C of E School, Community Education (01993 813592, [Comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk), [www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/commed](http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/commed)

### Woodstock Music Society Winter Concert

Benjamin Britten: *Saint Nicolas*; Geoffrey Bush: *A Christmas Cantata*; Massenet and Rébikov: *Music for Christmas*

Friday 8 and Saturday 9 December at 7.30

pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Woodstock. Advance tickets: £13 (concessions £12) from The Woodstock Bookshop (01993 812760) or email: [concerts@woodstockmusic.info](mailto:concerts@woodstockmusic.info). At the door, £14 (concessions £13). Full-time students £5, accompanied children under 16 free.

### Witney Music Society

Witney Music Society's December concert will be given by Rosalind Ventris (viola) and Marisa Gupta (piano). The concert, featuring works by Schumann, J. S. Bach, Schubert, Britten and Brahms, will be at 7.30pm on Friday 8 December.

In January, Oxford Lieder award winners Lorena Paz Nieto (soprano) and Johan Barnoin (piano) will give a recital of songs by composers including Strauss, Villa-Lobos and Manuel de Falla. The concert will be at 7.30pm on Friday 12 January.

Both concerts are at High Street Methodist Church, Witney. Tickets (full price £12, senior concessions £11, under 18 £1) will be available at the door from 7pm.

For more information, please telephone 01993 702296 or visit the Witney Music Society website [www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk)

### STONESFIELD VOLUNTARY TRANSPORT SCHEME

arranges car transport to doctors' and dentists' surgeries in Woodstock, Charlbury, Long Hanborough and Witney, and to Water Eaton Park & Ride (for buses to JR, Nuffield and Churchill Hospitals)

**If you need a lift for a medical visit in DECEMBER or JANUARY please ring Peter Clifton (891956) or Jenny Haviland (891614).**

*Every effort will be made to find a volunteer driver for you, but please give as much notice as you can. This is a free service, but donations to costs are welcomed.*

## Clubs & societies

### Stonesfield Scout Group

In November, Beavers worked on teamwork challenges, preparing for Remembrance Sunday, their Air Activities badge and baking. This month they will be heading off with the Cubs to Hill End for festive night-time orienteering.

Congratulations to all Scouts who achieved their Expedition Challenge badge at the end of October, despite Storm Brian, and showed great resilience and teamwork under extremely challenging conditions. Since then, Scouts have been working on their understanding of the Scout Law and their fire-lighting and outdoor cooking skills.

Christmas Bingo is back on 15 December at the village hall. Come and join us for an evening of fun, fabulous bingo and raffle prizes, bar and refreshments. Doors open at 6.30pm, 'eyes down' at 7pm.

Look out for post boxes for senior citizens' Christmas cards from 1 December at the shop, Derby and Joan and Lunch Clubs. Please ensure that addresses include house numbers/names and roads, for delivery within the village only, from 14 December by our young people.

And finally, don't forget to look out for Santa's sleigh, touring our village on 21 December. We are always hugely grateful to Witney Round Table for helping us raise money for both local charities and our own scout group. Catch up with us and join in with some carols!

Thank you to everyone in the village, local companies and families who have supported our group in so many ways throughout the year. If you, or someone you know, would like to get involved, contact us at [info@stonesfield-scouts.org.uk](mailto:info@stonesfield-scouts.org.uk). We wish you a very happy Christmas and a great new year.

*1st Stonesfield Scout Group*

### Stonesfield Lunch Club

The Stonesfield Lunch Club special open monthly lunches will be on Wednesday 6 December and Wednesday 3 January, at 12.15pm. Please telephone Anne Bishop (891414) or Mary Plumridge (891697) by the previous Friday if you would like to come.

### Women's Institute

The October meeting of WI was a sticky affair in which we mounded, coated and decorated our chocolate truffles aided and guided by our instructor Charlotte Gillingham. Each of us ended up with a box of sixteen delicious truffles, achieved amidst much laughter and good humour.

The November meeting will be afternoon tea at the St James' Centre.

*Anne Bishop*

### Stonesfield Gardening Club

After our AGM in November, this is the committee:  
Chair - Sybil Barton; Treasurer - Bernard



Williamson; Secretary - Diane Bates; Membership - Jill Rowlinson (891346); Publicity - Wendy Gould; Sylvia Huddleston; Gill Barrett; Helen Taylor.

As we have had a successful year to date, we agreed to donate £100 to each of the Stonesfield Pre-school and Bridewell Organic Gardens.

Our speaker, Tanya Bainbridge, presented a fascinating talk on the processes she uses in her soap-making ([www.stonesfieldsoap.com](http://www.stonesfieldsoap.com)) and some of the of plant extracts she uses.

On Monday 11 December we will hold our annual quiz and social evening in the St James' Centre. Membership renewals will be processed from 7.30pm with free mulled wine and mince pies! Subscriptions for 2018 will be £8 per individual or £15 for a couple.

The club has a small stock of composted horse manure for sale at cost price of £4.50 per bag; ideal for mulching around roses and clematis now or in spring, please contact me if you are interested – I can deliver to your garden!

*Sybil Barton (01993 891590  
[sybil.a.barton@gmail.com](mailto:sybil.a.barton@gmail.com))*

### Over 60s Darby & Joan Club

It was good to see so many at our November meeting, which was as always our Annual Bingo with the prizes having a touch of Christmas about them. Thank you to Judy & Jenny for organising them. It is always very quiet when you are calling the numbers until someone calls and then it can get a bit noisy when you are trying to check the cards. After the prizes were handed out it was time for

our Cuppa. We had some special cakes as we were celebrating Hilda Hyde's 90th birthday a little early. We gave Hilda a little gift and a card ready for the Big Day. We hope you have a wonderful time with your family, Hilda.

Names were taken for our Christmas Lunch on 14 Dec. Lunch will be served at 1pm. David Woodfine is organising our meal and we know it will be lovely. Thank you in advance David. We have organised entertainment and there will be the usual Raffle. Father Christmas will probably have been in earlier to drop off some gifts for us all. What a kind gentleman he is. Needless to say we will end with *Auld Lang Syne*.

Our first meeting of 2018 will be on 11 January 11 at 2pm. I look forward to seeing you then.

Alan & I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

*Avis*

### Stonesfield Folk Dance Group

We continue to meet in the Village Hall on Wednesdays from 8pm and would very much like to invite you to join us for a convivial evening of live music and traditional English Country Dance. We are busy planning The Ken Sheffield Tribute Day on 25 March to celebrate the life and work of one of England's best known choreographers who was a member of our club for many years. Sadly Ken died in July, leaving a huge legacy of Folk Dances and Tunes for us to continue enjoying. We have Kathryn & David Wright from Lichfield together with Keeping Thyme who will be joined by Elvyn Blomfield (all members of the

famous group Wild Thyme who recorded many of Ken's early dances) joining us for the day. Stonesfield Folk Dance Group is currently compiling a Commemorative CD featuring an interview with Ken made in February 2017, some early recordings by Wild Thyme, further recordings by The Donkey House Band, one of our resident bands that Ken played with and some reminiscences of his old friends.

The annual Stonesfield Folk Dance Weekend 8-10 June is being built around the visit of the National Youth Folk Troupe of England and this will bring young dancers and musicians from all over the UK. They are being supported by well-known and established Folk Stars. Booking is essential for this as spaces are limited and half have already been taken. Further information can be found on [www.stonesfieldfolkdance.danceorg.uk](http://www.stonesfieldfolkdance.danceorg.uk)

### Stonesfield Sports & Social Club

Come along on Christmas Day to enjoy a lunchtime drink from midday till 2pm. All welcome.

New Year's Eve – see the new year in with a disco from 8pm till 1am. Nibbles and a free glass of Prosecco at midnight.

Opening hours over Christmas (all other dates, normal opening hours):  
Christmas Eve, 4–11pm  
Christmas Day, noon–2pm  
Boxing Day, noon–4pm  
New Year's Eve, noon–1am  
New Year's Day, 4–11pm

The Club has now got Sky Ultimate and, coming soon, full BT sports package.

*Brian Clarke (891770)*

### Charbury's Own Cinema

Sunday, 17 December at 3pm: The Christmas Family Matinee is "ELF" Cert. PG / 93mins. Prizes for the best dressed elves! Free popcorn for children and mince pies for adults! Memorial Hall, Charlbury, doors and bar from 2.15pm. Admission: £5 / U16s £3 / Family £12 (2 adults and 1 or 2 children).

Sunday, 7 January 2018 at 7pm: The Martian Cert 12 / 2 hrs 20mins (plus short intermission). Memorial Hall, Charlbury, doors & bar from 6.15pm. Admission: £5 / U16s £3.

### Woodstock & District University of the Third Age

Our monthly meetings are at the Enterprise Centre, Marlborough School, Woodstock, generally every 1st Tuesday at 2pm. Visitors are welcome.

Our next meeting is on 12 December, when Hugh Granger will be talking about A Journey by Stagecoach.

For more information, please see our website [www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock) or phone 01865 580688.

### North Leigh History Society

5 Dec *Mischief and Mayhem in Oxford* – a talk by Richard O'Smith. With festive refreshments.

9 Jan *Jazz* – a talk by Peter Crumpton.

7.30 p.m. Turner Hall, Church Road, North Leigh OX29 6TX. All welcome. Visitors £4, Members free. Further details from Diana Power (01993 882301).



# Sport

## Stonesfield Football Club

With Santa gearing up for his annual gift-fest ... our Firsts could be forgiven for including goal-scoring boots in their list of goodies despite the fact that the Rice boys continue to find the back of the net on a regular basis, our heroes are edged into third place in the league on goal-difference ... if the half-chances had been taken in some of their games it could all be oh so different! This month has seen some great games and great results ... A wonderful away win at Tower Hill Stars (3-2) was followed by a draw at Tower Hill (2-2) then a magnificent home win against ancient rivals Milton (4-0). However, the absolute pick of the bunch has to be the 2-1 win in the Fred Ford Cup at home to high-flyers Middle Barton from Division 2 with Raffy Rice and Lewis Colwell notching the goals in an absolute cracker of a cup-tie that had our old boy Nick Higgs starring in Central midfield for the gallant visitors ... just wish he was strutting his stuff in Stonesfield Blue, as his dynamism would be a hugely welcome addition to our team. Hopefully the cup run continues and gives us great delight when winter finally gives way to that wonderful spring sunshine. Also, good luck to Nick and his pals in The Bartons – be good to see them promoted to our league next season, so that good-humoured hostilities can be renewed on a regular basis.

The Reserves have had a mixed-bag of results: a great win at home to Spartans (4-3) and an away defeat at Brize Norton

(3-2) followed a great win away at Carterton Town (2-1). Sadly defeat in the Jack Busby away at Bampton (5-1) shows just how fragile their form can be; a fact compounded by their trip to top-of-the-table Bletchingdon where a Jamie Gardener double secured all three points for our boys in a 5-goal thriller, elevating them to a respectable 5th place in the league.

The Football Club would like to say a massive 'thank-you' to Mark Hatton for all his hard work throughout the season in keeping our pitch in tip-top condition and also recently for assembling our new goal posts single-handedly (no mean feat). Mark was 'in the frame' when the committee were considering this month's Fredo Award but Mrs Claus and her efforts on behalf of Santa's Elves and their daily lunches is also a worthy contender - then up popped Young Jamie Gardener who has been at his supreme best scoring great goals for The Reserves in both games against Bletchingdon and Carterton ... I'm sure neither Mark nor Lady Claus would begrudge Young Jamie stepping forward to claim this month's Fredo as just reward for all his efforts.

With The Festive Season about to descend upon us all, the Football Club would like to thank the whole village for your support in the last year and wish each and every one of you a lovely Christmas and a hugely prosperous New Year.

*Tom Flanigan (891979)*

# Church news



## Anglican Worship in the Parishes of Stonesfield with Combe Longa

Rector: The Revd Roy Turner

The Rectory, Stonesfield, Witney, Oxon, OX29 8PR

Telephone: 01993 898552 – Email: revroystonesfield@hotmail.co.uk

[www.stonesfieldparishchurch.org](http://www.stonesfieldparishchurch.org)

Stonesfield Churchwardens: Neil Melrose (891566) and Martine Smith-Huvers (898425)  
Combe Longa Churchwardens: Julian Freeland (891223) and Andrew Hobson (891273)

BCP=Book of Common Prayer: CW=Common Worship



## From your Parish Priest

Are you looking forward to Christmas? It can be, sometimes, a bit of a pressure. Not only the obvious financial implications of trying to make Christmas special for our loved ones but the time it takes to get everything ready.

So are you ready for Christmas?

My second daughter is usually super-efficient in making sure that all is ready. However, this year she has to be very organised. She is expecting her second child and the estimate, as far as time for arrival is concerned, has been given as Christmas Day.

Of course babies have a habit of coming when they are ready. Bev and I are on call for the birth, it will be our job to look after my daughter's firstborn, as she and her husband I guess will be quite busy! The good thing is that the trip to the hospital will not be 80 miles on a donkey on unmade roads.

You will remember that trip has already been done.

Nazareth to Bethlehem was quite an undertaking in winter. Thank goodness it will be in a Vauxhall people-carrier on reasonable roads, given the potholes that can jolt a bit. Their car tends to be a bit more comfortable and the suspension is much better since those donkey days.

Given all our sophistication though and 'wishbone technology', the arrival of a brand new life is still a miracle, don't you think? No doubt there will be a few tears of joy and not a few of relief when the new addition arrives.

Thankfully the little one will come back home to a house 'spick and span' and ready for the new arrival. Our daughter told me that she has been 'fettling' the house and there will be a warm bed ready. I know that Joseph made the best he could with a bit of straw and an animal food trough. I am sure we are all pleased our new addition will have the

best of a soft and secure place to rest its head and a secure home to belong to. A home especially prepared, fettled and lovingly arranged.

I suppose that's something of the message of Christmas. It's not a physical home but a spiritual home we need to prepare. To make ready and prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ child. To prepare our hearts for him to make a home in our lives. The trouble these days is that many of us find it difficult to make way for anything but our own needs. I find it amazing how we are driven by consumerism and getting stuff

that we hope will make sense of our lives. We have all, I am sure, made the mistake of thinking that the stuff we collect will satisfy our sense of who we are. Unfortunately, I have found, that stuff never does.

I have found that it's only relationship, family and love that makes sense. Ultimately, of course, the love of God that is celebrated at Christmas time.

Have a great Christmas and I hope to see you all. There are lots of services to choose from.

See you soon and of course D.F.T.W.

Rev Roy

## SERVICES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

### Sunday 3 December [Advent Sunday]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	All Age Worship - Christingle
11am	Stonesfield	All Age Worship

### Sunday 10 December [Second Sunday of Advent]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Matins [BCP/sung]
11am	Stonesfield	Parish Communion [CW/sung]

### Sunday 17 December [Third Sunday of Advent]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [BCP/said]
11am	Stonesfield	Communion Service for all ages
3pm	Combe Longa	Village Carol Service

### Saturday 23 December

6.30pm	Stonesfield	Village Carol Service
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### Christmas Eve: Sunday 24 December [Fourth Sunday of Advent]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
10am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [CW/said]
3.30pm	Stonesfield	Crib Service – for all the family
10pm	Combe Longa	Midnight Holy Communion
10pm	Stonesfield	Midnight Holy Communion

### Christmas Day: Monday 25 December

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Family Service with Holy Communion
11am	Stonesfield	Family Service with Holy Communion

### Sunday 31 December [First Sunday of Christmas]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
10am	Stonesfield	United Benefice Communion [CW/sung]

### Sunday 7 January [Epiphany transferred – Baptism of Christ]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	All Age Worship
11am	Stonesfield	All Age Worship

### Sunday 14 January [Epiphany 2]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [CW/sung]
11am	Stonesfield	Parish Communion [CW/sung]

### Sunday 21 January [Epiphany 3]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [CW/sung]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [BCP/said]
11am	Stonesfield	Communion Service for all ages

### Sunday 28 January [Epiphany 4]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [BCP/said]
11am	Stonesfield	Parish Communion [CW/sung]
4.30pm	Combe Longa	Evensong

### Sunday 4 February [Fourth Sunday before Lent]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	All Age Worship
11am	Stonesfield	All Age Worship

### Mid-week Communion Service [said]

Wednesdays 9.30am at Stonesfield. Everyone is most welcome.

### Money Collections at Christmas Services

There will be an opportunity at the Carol Service on Saturday 23 December to donate to Sobell House Hospice in

Oxford. At the Crib Service, children often like to place a gift under the Christmas tree – we would be grateful if this could be a gift of money for the Children's Society, instead of a toy. It

would be fun if children wrapped up a parcel of money to look like a present! Thank you.

## Stonesfield Methodist Church

### SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Sun 3	11am	Revd Rose Westwood Holy Communion
Sun 10	10am	Revd Fred Ireland
Sun 17	11am	David Sarbutts
Sun 24	3pm	Revd Melanie Reed
Christmas Day		Revd Rose Westwood
10.30		Charlbury

### SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Sun 7	11am	Revd Rose Westwood Covenant Service
Sun 14	11am	Eddie Fowler
Sun 21	11am	Mary Blow
Sun 28	11am	Keith Crawford

The Carol Service this year will be led by Melanie, the Minister of High St. Methodist Church, Witney. We look forward to her visit. Melanie is an inspiring speaker; she uplifts our spirits!

Come and join our Christmas celebration, it's a great time to share in the real meaning of this wonderful season. It's been a year of changes, we sincerely wish the Church to remain as part of the community and are doing all we can to keep it as such, although there are difficulties to overcome.

We thank friends for their kind and constant support which has helped us

through this year and we reach out to the wider village, seeking greater support for the future. We welcome all to join our Services and if you are new to the village you may like to come to our Christmas Service on the 24th at 3pm. We would love to meet you. A warm welcome awaits everyone!

*Kathleen*

### From the Minister

Dear Friends

This is my first Christmas in Oxfordshire, and I am eagerly looking forward to any usual customs that may still survive here. Many years ago, I lived in South Yorkshire, where I discovered that local villages had a collection of local carols that were still sung in Church and Pub. And no one seemed shy about joining in with the singing!

If carols are not sung in the pub in Stonesfield, then I am sure that a good welcome will await you – should you wish to sing carols old and new – in our churches here in Stonesfield over the Christmas season.

And on to the New Year with all that will bring for us. In our Methodist Churches we usually begin the New Year with our covenant service. This is not so much a time to make a New Year's resolution, but an opportunity to give thanks to God and renew our sense of belonging to the wider community brought together in Christ. It is a special moment, when we can contemplate the things that are really important in life.

I wonder what things you hold most important in life? I would hope that this time of year, family and friends might be

on that list; a sense of gratitude for the tremendous blessings which come with living in such a peaceful part of the world; and an ability to spare a thought (and perhaps something more) for those for whom Christmas is not such a joyful time.

And so I wish you joy and peace in your preparations for Christmas, but most importantly of all, the love of Jesus Christ our Lord in and throughout the celebrations.

*Every blessing, Rose*

*The Reverend Rose Westwood, Minister,  
Stonesfield Methodist Church and  
Superintendent of the Witney and  
Faringdon Circuit*

## Roman Catholic Worship

### St Teresa's Charlbury

Innocence

Shortly we will be celebrating Christmas with all the joy and pleasure that that entails. Most of us will have decorated our houses and some of us will have a crib showing the Nativity. It was St Francis of Assisi in the 13C who initiated the first crib using real animals to show people what he thought the Nativity looked like. In particular, he wanted to reinforce the message that the 'Good News' in the Gospels was brought by the Son of God in human form. And in particular, he wanted to show that human form at its most vulnerable and innocent – that of a newborn child. The importance of the representation of the Child Jesus was to emphasize this perfect message, just as newborn babies are unblemished by adult failings, so Jesus as the innocent child was bringing us all

this pure, new message of hope – the gift of life eternal.

### Christmas Service times at St Teresa's

24 December: 8.30pm Mass of Christmas Night with carols

25 December: 9.15am Mass of Christmas Day

For times of confession, see the weekly newsletter on: [stteresaschurch-charlbury.com](mailto:stteresaschurch-charlbury.com)

### MASS TIMES

### SUNDAYS

**St Teresa's, Charlbury:** 9.15am

**St Kenelm's, Enstone:** 9am, second Sunday of every month

### WEEKDAYS

**St Teresa's, Charlbury:** 9.30am, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, preceded by Morning Prayers at 9.15am.

**Confession:** Confessions will be at 10am after morning Mass on Saturdays, and on request.

**Father Tony Joyce** can be contacted on: [holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com) or telephone: 01608 642703

For parish updates and any further information please see: <https://stteresaschurch-charlbury.com/> or contact Mike and Clare, Joint Chairs, Parish Committee: chair. [stteresaschurchcharlbury@gmail.com](mailto:stteresaschurchcharlbury@gmail.com)

### Forthcoming Events

Sunday 17 December 3pm: St. Teresa's Christmas Carol Service



Christmas cards for sale: 19 November–10 December (4 Sundays) to support Aid to the Church in Need, an ecumenical charity that supports persecuted Christians world-wide.

## 2018

English Women Saints – date tbc

Visit to Stonor House – date tbc

For further information about the above please contact Suze Mathews, suzemathews899@btinternet.com, 01993 8791720

*The Roman Catholic community in Stonesfield wishes you all a joyous and peaceful Christmas.*

## New Church thought

Back in 1992, at a friend's suggestion, I wrote these lyrics for a carol:

*At Christmas... do we really know why the celebrations give us such a glow? Can we sense the angels joining earth to heaven? Have we understood yet why this gift was given?*

*At Christmas... God came to the world. Quietly, in darkness, wonderment unfurled. Lowly manger baby, Jesus – gift of gold – brought his love to guide us safely to his fold.*

*At Christmas... life can start anew if we change the pattern seen in what we do. Show good will, and cherish those we come to know. Nurture love for others – heaven's peace will grow.*

*Let us learn a lesson from that tiny boy – innocence and wonder open us to joy.*

Wishing you peace, wonderment and joy this Christmas season.

*Dale Morris*



*The Stonesfield Slate is a village amenity produced and distributed by volunteers. It cannot be held responsible for any of the views expressed in its pages nor does it endorse any of the products or services advertised. The editor and the publishers reserve the right to edit or shorten any article submitted for publication.*

**Childcare/Babysitter.** My name is Ciara Holloway and I am 14 years and I am currently in year 10. I am happy to babysit or take care of children. I have younger siblings and am very competent at looking after children of any age. I have also passed a babysitting course at school. Please contact me on 07943 847622.

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## VACANCY

Stonesfield Sports and Social Club are looking to fill the role of Club Steward.  
For further details or to apply please email Dave Holloway before 8 December  
dave@callowfarm.co.uk

## FoSL: Friends of Stonesfield Library

Open to anyone who wants to help keep our village library open.  
We are now providing voluntary cover for half of the existing library hours (about 6 hours a week), since the library service is now cut back.  
For further details, or to join us, please contact Tony Scott on 01993 891380, tonyandrachel.scott@virgin.net

## Advertisements

Line ads: £1.50 per 30 words.  
Boxed ads: 1/16 page £2; 1/8 page £4; 1/4 page £8; 1/2 page £12; whole page £24.

Copy should be sent to sj@sjhaviland.co.uk by 15th of the month or dropped in to Jenny Haviland, Peakes House, Peaks Lane, Stonesfield, OX29 8PY (tel. 01993 891614).

## STEVE HEYDEN HOME CARE

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## CHRISTMAS WREATHS

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A choice of red or gold ribbons, pine cones and a selection of festive foliage.  
14" wreaths £12.99, 12" wreaths £10.  
Katrina – 01993 891131 / 07824 357690  
katrinamoss1979@icloud.com

## Still-Life Drawing at Reading Room in Combe

New course starts Friday 5 January, 10 am to 12.15 pm, 5 weeks, £60.  
Drop-in sessions start Friday 5 January, 1.30 to 3.45 pm, £13.  
All-day workshop, Saturday 25 January, 10 am to 4.30 pm, £30.

## Elementary Drawing Skills at St James' Centre in Stonesfield

New course starts Monday 8 January, 1.30 to 3.45 pm, 4 weeks, £48.

For more information and bookings, contact Gabriele by email gabrielekern31@gmail.com or tel 01993 880430

## FITSTEPS CLASSES

Linda invites you to join her in funfilled FITSTEPS (R) classes for Beginners from January 2018, as a fantastic way to start the New Year!

FITSTEPS was created in 2013 by popular 'Strictly Come Dancing' stars Natalie Lowe & Ian Waite, along with Olympic swimmer Mark Foster.

It combines various basic Ballroom & Latin American style dance steps with some cardio exercise, but please don't let that deter you. It requires NO PRIOR DANCE EXPERIENCE! So come and try it for yourself. It's a 'Strictly' fun way to fitness and you can take it at your own pace to suit your current level of fitness!

### Classes from 8 January 2018

Monday & Friday afternoons (times to be confirmed) at  
St James' Centre, High Street, Stonesfield, Witney OX29 8PU  
£5 per class

### FREE 30 mins TASTER SESSIONS

Friday 15 December and Monday 18 December, 1.30 pm

To express your interest in either the Taster or 2018 sessions or for further details, please pop your name, contact number &/or email address to  
Linda Marsh 07742 886860 or [fitsteps.linda@gmail.com](mailto:fitsteps.linda@gmail.com)

Charlbury

## CHRISTMAS TREES



**Come and choose your own Christmas tree growing in the field.  
Thousands to choose from – Norway Spruce and Belgian Spruce.**

Open December weekends until Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> to choose and collect.

**9.30am - 4.00pm**

Halcyon Honey Farm

Woodstock Road, Charlbury, OX7 3ET

Tel: 01608 810260 Mob: 07969 208518

Turn off A44 onto B4437 to Charlbury and look out for the banners!



We now have a fully extended childcare provision running from Pre-School.  
Here is what is currently available:

### Breakfast Club

Now Monday–Thursday, 8–8.50am (£5 per day).  
Cereal, toast and fruit juice included

### Pre-School Sessions

9am–3pm daily for children aged 2–4 years

### After School Club

Monday–Thursday, 3.15–6pm (£15 per day)

If you would like registration forms for any of the above,  
please contact our administrator, Mrs Zena Rozee  
(tel. 01993 898012 or email: [zenarozee@outlook.com](mailto:zenarozee@outlook.com))



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## Salon Copenhagen

3 Pendle Court, Pond Hill, Stonesfield, Oxon. Telephone (01993) 891101

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offering styling treatments and hairdressing advice.*

*All aspects of hairdressing undertaken by our professionally trained stylists,  
Sally, Cheryl and Donna, and we welcome Chloe, our new junior.*

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### PET SITTING



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## Good Gourmet

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20 January 2018  
Fine-Dining South-East Asia  
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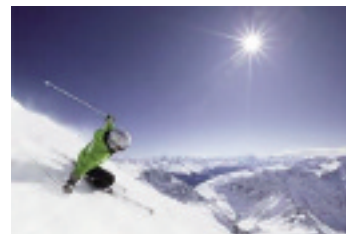
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